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Refusal to pay state income taxes brings prison sentence to Sandy man

A 60-year old Sandy man was sentenced up to 15 years in the Utah State Prison Friday after being convicted of state income tax evasion over five consecutive years.

Scott Alan Rasmussen claimed to be a "common law employee" and failed to pay state income tax each year between 2010 and 2015.

He was convicted of second degree felony tax evasion which carried a one to 15-year sentence and three charges of failure to render a proper tax return, a third degree felony. The third degree felony indeterminate sentence terms are up to five years each and the prison terms will run concurrent.

A jury found Rasmussen guilty in August and 3rd District Court Judge Judith S. Atherton issued the sentence October 20. He also owes the state \$23,930 in restitution, plus interest.

Utah State Tax Commission officers investigated Rasmussen last year and the Attorney General's Office prosecuted the case.

"The State Tax Commission continues to rigorously investigate those individuals who refuse to pay their fair share of taxes," said spokesperson Charlie Roberts.

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